



NEWS RELEASE

Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests & Thunder Basin National Grassland

Date: November 17, 2010 **Contact** Marci Kinzie
(970-870-2299)

Christmas Tree Permits Available

(Steamboat Springs, Colo) Christmas tree permits are available at all Medicine Bow-Routt National Forest offices in Colorado and Wyoming for \$10.00 each. Each permit allows for the cutting of one tree on National Forest System Lands. There is a limit of five permits per household. Trees must be for personal use, not for resale. The permit must be clearly displayed around the stem of the tree before leaving the cutting area.

Some areas of the Forest are closed to tree cutting or may be difficult to access, so please contact the local Forest Service office for specific site information, including the status of roads. The Forest Service would like to emphasize that Wilderness areas -- Flat Tops, Mount Zirkel, Rawah, Neota, and Never Summer -- are off limits to tree cutting.

Weather conditions can change quickly, so please be prepared. Dress for winter conditions and have your vehicle equipped with adequate tires, chains and a shovel. Here are reminders when cutting your tree:

- Trees may not be cut within 100 feet of roads or within 200 feet of campgrounds, picnic areas, scenic pullouts, administrative sites, timber sale areas or designated Wilderness areas.
- Choose a tree that is growing with other trees in a cluster. Do not choose the "perfect" tree that stands alone. The forest environment benefits by thinning the clusters and allowing the strong trees to remain and provide for a healthy genetic source for the future forest.
- Maximum tree height is 20 feet.
- Cut tree six inches or less above the ground, or below the lowest living branch, whichever is lower. If one living branch is left on the stump, the tree will continue to grow, although it will probably become deformed and encourage disease.

***Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests, Thunder Basin National Grassland
2468 Jackson Street, Laramie, Wyoming 82070
<http://www.fs.fed.us/mrnf/news.htm>***

- If boughs are wanted, please choose a taller tree than needed (maximum 20 feet) and use the lower branches for boughs. Please do not cut boughs from other living trees.

Tree cutting regulations have been established to maintain a healthy forest environment.

For more information, contact your local Forest Service office.

Hahns Peak-Bears Ears District Office Mon – Fri 8-5

925 Weiss Drive
Steamboat Springs, CO
(970) 870-2299

Yampa District Office Mon – Fri 8 - 5

300 Roselawn Street
Yampa, CO
(970) 638-4516
Permits can be ordered through the mail from the Yampa office

Parks District Office Mon – Fri 8:00-4:30

100 Main Street
Walden, CO
(970) 723-8204